

EVENING PAPERS : WEDNESDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 1947.
MORNING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 23RD OCTOBER, 1947.

BULLETIN OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFIT STATISTICS

16. July, 1947.

1. GENERAL.

This summary, issued by the Commonwealth Statistician, (Dr. Roland Wilson), covers the operations of Part VII of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947 for the month of July, 1947.

The Act provides for the payment of benefit to persons whose normal earnings have been interrupted through unemployment or temporary incapacity. It also provides a third class of benefit - designated Special Benefit - which gives a measure of assistance to those persons who, on account of some special circumstances, cannot comply with the statutory requirements relating to unemployment or sickness benefit, and who are prevented from earning a livelihood and are in need.

The number of recipients of benefit do not embrace the total unemployment and sickness in the community. Unemployment or sickness of less than seven days' duration is not covered due to the provision in the Act of a "waiting period" of this length of time during which no benefit is payable. Permanent incapacity is not included as this is covered by the Age and Invalid section of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947. The application of a "means test" excludes another group from benefit. The inclusion of claims rejected - see Section 8 - completes the coverage of all persons applying for benefit, irrespective of whether their claims are approved or rejected.

The number of "persons on benefit" in this summary relates to principal beneficiaries who would normally be breadwinners. Dependants of such beneficiaries are not included.

The information contained in this bulletin has been compiled from data made available by the Department of Social Services. The details given in Sections 4, 6 and 7 refer to admittances and exits notified during the period shown and not to admittances and exits which actually occurred during the period.

Due to delay in the receipt of information in respect of some beneficiaries the figures are preliminary and subject to revision. This applies particularly to discontinuances and results in persons on benefit at the end of the month being overstated.

2. BENEFITS PAID

The benefits paid in respect of each class of benefit in each State during July, 1946 and 1947, are shown in the following table:-

AMOUNT OF BENEFITS PAID DURING JULY, 1946 AND 1947 : STATES.

State	Benefits paid during July, 1947.				Benefits paid during July, 1946.			
	Unem- ployment	Sickness	Special	Total	Unem- ployment	Sickness	Special	Total
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
N.S.W. (a) ..	9,494	24,165	633	34,292	10,013	18,188	167	28,368
Victoria ..	3,499	15,668	494	19,661	4,111	12,363	149	16,623
Queensland ..	23,997	10,082	667	34,746	35,164	6,754	185	42,103
S. Aust. (b) ..	704	6,698	243	7,645	3,045	6,246	47	9,338
W. Australia ..	6,666	5,336	382	12,384	10,462	4,685	135	15,282
Tasmania ..	442	3,551	154	4,147	623	2,169	216	3,008
<u>TOTAL:</u>	44,802	65,500	2,573	112,875	63,418	50,405	899	114,722

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

3. SUMMARY - CLAIMS ADMITTED, EXITS, PERSONS ON BENEFIT

The following table shows for the years 1945-46 and 1946-47, and for the months July, 1946 to July, 1947, the number of claims admitted and discontinued and persons remaining on benefit:-

CLAIMS ADMITTED, DISCONTINUANCES AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT - YEARS 1945-46 AND 1946-47 AND MONTHS FROM JULY, 1946 TO JULY, 1947.

AUSTRALIA.

Period	Unemployment		Sickness		Special		Total		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
CLAIMS ADMITTED									
Year 1945-46 ..	65,455	12,289	33,178	6,724	242	194	98,875	19,207	118,082
" 1946-47 (a)	73,379	5,199	45,024	11,004	1,271	335	119,674	16,538	136,212
1946 -									
July ..	9,071	2,494	3,334	666	57	17	12,462	3,177	15,639
August ..	3,875	164	4,199	917	56	31	8,130	1,112	9,242
September ..	2,791	109	3,385	759	27	22	6,203	890	7,093
October ..	3,102	97	3,546	877	81	27	6,729	1,001	7,730
November ..	16,132	1,001	4,348	1,065	201	31	20,681	2,097	22,778
December ..	9,608	324	2,905	707	197	38	12,710	1,069	13,779
1947 -									
January ..	6,649	170	3,018	656	108	20	9,775	846	10,621
February ..	5,903	165	3,412	909	116	24	9,431	1,098	10,529
March ..	5,072	196	4,661	1,293	119	37	9,852	1,526	11,378
April ..	4,275	145	3,308	802	82	21	7,665	968	8,633
May ..	4,231	217	5,056	1,345	157	46	9,444	1,608	11,052
June ..	2,670	117	3,852	1,008	70	21	6,592	1,146	7,738
July (a) ..	2,483	128	5,019	1,368	97	62	7,599	1,558	9,157
DISCONTINUANCES									
Year 1945-46 ..	58,879	11,992	27,550	5,432	186	54	86,615	17,478	104,093
" 1946-47 (a)	73,974	5,269	43,388	10,077	1,126	210	118,490	15,556	134,046
1946 -									
July ..	9,188	2,494	2,996	547	40	8	12,224	3,049	15,273
August ..	4,125	195	3,868	786	42	16	8,035	997	9,032
September ..	2,983	145	2,939	655	24	8	6,300	808	7,108
October ..	3,106	107	3,424	777	47	27	6,577	911	7,488
November ..	9,833	874	4,333	983	75	18	14,841	1,875	16,716
December ..	5,084	176	2,744	735	78	19	7,906	930	8,836
1947 -									
January ..	11,151	367	3,112	672	194	13	14,457	1,052	15,509
February ..	6,367	143	3,336	756	114	18	9,817	920	10,737
March ..	7,197	215	4,318	1,087	190	34	11,705	1,336	13,041
April ..	5,192	157	3,365	894	99	12	8,656	1,063	9,719
May ..	5,945	242	4,803	1,220	157	22	10,905	1,484	12,389
June ..	3,803	151	3,796	965	76	15	7,675	1,131	8,806
July (a) ..	2,902	134	4,262	1,082	100	31	7,264	1,247	8,511
PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF EACH MONTH									
1946 -									
June ..	6,576	297	5,628	1,292	56	140	12,260	1,729	13,989
July ..	6,459	297	5,966	1,411	73	149	12,498	1,857	14,355
August ..	6,209	266	6,297	1,542	87	164	12,593	1,972	14,565
September ..	6,017	230	6,389	1,646	90	178	12,496	2,054	14,550
October ..	6,013	220	6,511	1,746	124	173	12,648	2,144	14,792
November ..	12,312	347	6,526	1,828	250	191	19,028	2,366	21,454
December ..	16,836	495	6,687	1,800	369	210	23,992	2,505	26,397
1947 -									
January ..	12,334	298	6,593	1,784	283	217	19,210	2,299	21,509
February ..	11,870	317	6,669	1,937	285	223	18,824	2,477	21,301
March ..	9,745	298	7,012	2,143	214	226	16,971	2,667	19,638
April ..	8,828	286	6,955	2,051	197	235	15,980	2,572	18,552
May ..	7,114	261	7,200	2,176	197	259	14,519	2,696	17,215
June ..	5,981	227	7,264	2,219	191	265	13,436	2,711	16,147
July (a) ..	5,562	221	8,021	2,505	188	296	13,771	3,022	16,793

(a) Subject to revision.

Note : For monthly figures from July, 1945 to June, 1946, see October, 1946, Bulletin.

BENEFITS DISCONTINUED

(i) Duration : The number of weeks during which benefit was paid for each of the cases of benefit whose discontinuance was notified during July, 1947, is shown in the following table :-

DURATION OF BENEFITS DISCONTINUED DURING JULY, 1947 : AUSTRALIA.

Duration of Benefit Weeks	Unemployment		Sickness		Special		Total		Persons
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Less than 1	341	12	407	63	6	-	754	75	829
1 and under 2	435	24	726	128	16	3	1,177	155	1,332
2 " " 3	313	11	608	136	11	6	922	150	1,082
3 " " 4	261	13	516	158	6	2	783	173	956
4 " " 5	185	10	343	99	8	3	536	112	648
5 " " 9	483	25	772	212	16	4	1,271	241	1,512
9 " " 13	222	17	288	111	18	2	526	130	658
13 " " 26	393	19	385	130	12	7	790	156	946
26 and over	269	3	217	45	7	7	493	55	548
TOTAL:	2,902	134	4,262	1,082	100	31	7,264	1,247	8,511

Of the 8,511 benefits whose discontinuance was notified during July, 1947, 3,664 (43.1 per cent) were in receipt of benefit for five weeks and over, 4,312 (50.7 per cent) for four weeks and over, 5,268 (61.9 per cent) for three weeks and over, 6,350 (74.6 per cent) for two weeks and over, 7,682 (90.3 per cent) for one week and over, whilst 829 (9.7 per cent) received benefit for less than one week.

Of the unemployment benefit cases discontinued 11.6 per cent were in receipt of benefit for less than one week, 37.4 per cent for less than three weeks 52.9 per cent for less than five weeks and 69.6 per cent for less than 9 weeks. Corresponding percentages for sickness benefit cases were 8.8, 38.6, 59.5 and 78.0.

(ii) Reasons for Cessation : Of the 3,036 cases of unemployment benefit whose termination was notified during July, 1947, 2,744 (90.4 per cent) secured employment or failed to report (which in most cases means that the beneficiary has resumed employment without advising the Department of Social Services), 176 (5.8 per cent) transferred to Sickness Benefit or to another district and 41 (1.4 per cent) were classified as permanently incapacitated which in practically every case, means that they were transferred to Invalid Pensions).

Of the 5,344 cases of sickness benefit whose termination was notified, 4,542 (85.0 per cent) recovered from their illness and presumably resumed employment, 242 (4.5 per cent) were classified as permanently incapacitated, 186 (3.5 per cent) transferred to Unemployment Benefit or to another district and 90 (1.7 per cent) died.

5. PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF JULY, 1947.

Total Persons

(i) Proportion per 10,000 in Employment : The proportion of persons on benefit at 26th July, 1947, to the estimated number of employees in employment was approximately 66 per 10,000 comprising 23 unemployment, 41 sickness and 2 special cases per 10,000.

The following table shows the proportion for males and females separately:-

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 26TH JULY, 1947.
PER 10,000 WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.

Sex	Proportion	No. on benefit per 10,000 in employment			
		Unemployment	Sickness	Special	Total
Males	per 10,000 males	30	44	1	75
Females	per 10,000 females	3	37	4	44
Persons	per 10,000 persons	23	41	2	66

(ii) State Totals : The following table shows the number of persons in each State in receipt of benefit at 26th July, 1947:-

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 26TH JULY, 1947 : STATES.

State		Unemployment		Sickness		Special		Total		Persons
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
N.S.W. (a)	..	1,308	63	3,166	927	59	78	4,533	1,068	5,601
Vic.	..	577	26	1,973	726	36	72	2,586	824	3,410
Q'ld.	..	2,747	113	1,132	334	44	55	3,923	502	4,425
S.A. (b)	..	99	4	776	200	14	27	889	231	1,120
W.A.	..	782	15	600	225	30	33	1,412	273	1,685
Tas.	..	49	-	374	93	5	31	428	124	552
<u>TOTAL:</u>		5,562	221	8,021	2,505	188	296	13,771	3,022	16,793

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(iii) Ages : Distribution of persons on benefit at 26th July, 1947, according to age groups as shown in the following table :-

GROUPED AGE : PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 26TH JULY, 1947 : AUSTRALIA

Grouped Age (as at 31st Dec., 1947)	Unemployment		Sickness		Special		Total		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
16 - 19 years	162	49	507	482	2	19	671	550	1,221
20 - 24 "	450	57	782	624	6	16	1,238	697	1,935
25 - 29 "	487	31	640	307	1	20	1,128	358	1,486
30 - 34 "	464	15	635	223	7	32	1,106	270	1,376
35 - 39 "	486	13	712	154	6	29	1,204	196	1,400
40 - 44 "	504	15	739	181	1	46	1,244	242	1,486
45 - 49 "	577	20	819	251	4	45	1,400	316	1,716
50 - 54 "	641	11	878	149	3	50	1,522	210	1,732
55 - 59 "	805	8	1,162	123	2	21	1,969	152	2,121
60 years and over	986	2	1,147	11	156	18	2,289	31	2,320
<u>TOTAL:</u>	5,562	221	8,021	2,505	188	296	13,771	3,022	16,793

6. UNEMPLOYMENT - CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING JULY, 1947 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF JULY, 1947.

(i) Cause of Unemployment : The following table analyses the reasons for termination of employment as stated by persons whose admission to benefit was notified during July, 1947, and by those who were on benefit at 26th July, 1947.

Discharges and lay-offs are separations on the initiative of the employer, the broad distinction being that a discharge is final and there is no likelihood of the person being re-engaged, at least in the near future. A lay-off is a separation of a temporary nature with the idea that the job will be available again for the employee as soon as circumstances permit. Quits are separations which take place on the initiative of the employee.

CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT : CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC. DURING JULY, 1947.
AUSTRALIA.

Cause of Unemployment	Admitted during July, 1947.			On benefit at 26th July, 1947.		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Discharged or Laid off -						
Disciplinary reasons ..	29	1	30	77	1	78
Inefficiency, including medical unfitness ..	150	8	158	385	12	397
Power rationing ..	1	-	1	16	3	19
Shortage of materials ..	132	3	135	255	7	262
Strikes and lock-outs ..	10	-	10	157	7	164
Seasonal work ..	235	3	238	654	11	665
Casual work ..	595	15	610	980	21	1,001
Other, including inadequately defined ..	603	41	644	1,444	53	1,497
Quitted -						
Medical unfitness, work too heavy ..	362	29	391	827	46	873
Other quits, including inadequately defined ..	229	17	246	373	37	410
Not previously employed -						
Employers, workers on own account ..	87	-	87	210	1	211
Ex-service personnel not yet returned to work ..	41	2	43	171	4	175
Other ..	9	9	18	13	18	31
<u>TOTAL:</u>	2,483	128	2,611	5,562	221	5,783

(ii) Industrial Groups : In the following statement is shown the distribution, according to main industrial groups, of persons whose admission to benefit was notified during July, 1947, and of those on benefit at 26th July, 1947:-

UNEMPLOYMENT - INDUSTRIAL GROUPS - CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC. DURING JULY, 1947.-
AUSTRALIA.

Industry in which last engaged	Claims admitted during July, 1947.			On benefit at 26th July, 1947.		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Agriculture, Pastoral and Dairying ..	347	3	350	761	2	763
Other Primary Production ..	64	-	64	113	-	113
Coal Mining ..	9	-	9	35	-	35
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	66	-	66	102	-	102
Factories and Industrial -						
Founding, engineering, metalworking						
including shipbuilding ..	162	3	165	468	5	473
Vehicles, including aircraft ..	57	-	57	121	1	122
Textiles and articles of dress ..	21	13	34	64	25	89
Food, drink and tobacco ..	168	9	177	530	19	549
Furniture, woodwork, etc. ..	50	1	51	100	1	101
Other factories, including heat,						
light and power ..	123	3	126	262	5	267
Building and Construction ..	358	-	358	680	-	680
Transport and Communication ..	204	6	210	464	12	476
Commerce and Finance -						
Wholesale and retail trade ..	234	20	254	562	37	599
Finance and property ..	11	1	12	37	2	39
Public Administration and Professional	390	7	397	661	22	683
Personal and Domestic Service ..	158	51	209	408	70	478
Other ..	61	11	72	194	20	214
<u>TOTAL:</u>	2,483	128	2,611	5,562	221	5,783

Distribution by States of males in receipt of unemployment benefit at 26th July, 1947, in the principal industrial groups is shown in the following table :-

UNEMPLOYMENT : INDUSTRIAL GROUPS - MALES ON BENEFIT AT 26TH JULY, 1947 : STATES.

Industry in which last engaged	N.S.W. (a)	VIC.	Q'LAND	S.A. (b)	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.
Agriculture, Pastoral, etc. ..	241	41	425	5	44	5	761
Other Primary including Mining ..	81	27	96	3	41	2	250
Engineering, etc. including Vehicles ..	172	143	170	22	80	2	589
Food, Drink, etc. Factories ..	83	51	342	7	41	6	530
Other Factories ..	108	73	148	10	81	6	426
Building and Construction ..	161	51	369	8	89	2	680
Transport ..	77	71	221	11	75	9	464
Commerce and Finance ..	132	47	274	17	123	6	599
Public Administration and Professional							
(c) ..	112	34	409	9	92	5	661
Personal and Domestic Service ..	115	32	169	6	86	-	408
Other ..	26	7	124	1	30	6	194
<u>TOTAL:</u>	1,308	577	2,747	99	782	49	5,562

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Includes civilians previously employed by Australia or Allied Services - N.S.W. 44, Qld. 250, W.A. 21.

(iii) Metropolitan and Other : Admissions to unemployment benefit notified during July, 1947, and persons on benefit at 26th July, 1947, are dissected into "Metropolitan" and "Other" Districts (based on the usual place of residence of the beneficiary) in the following table :-

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFICIARIES BETWEEN METROPOLITAN AND OTHER DISTRICTS (a) : STATES.

State	Claims admitted during July, 1947.				On Benefit at 26th July, 1947.			
	Metropolitan		Other		Metropolitan		Other	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
New South Wales (b) ..	138	2	470	45	328	4	980	59
Victoria ..	54	5	139	4	313	18	264	8
Queensland ..	499	14	714	45	1,301	33	1,446	80
South Australia (c) ..	27	1	13	-	85	3	14	1
Western Australia ..	316	4	88	8	674	7	108	8
Tasmania ..	20	-	5	-	40	-	9	-
TOTAL:	1,054	26	1,429	102	2,741	65	2,821	156

(a) Metropolitan comprises the regions administered from Capital City and Suburban district offices of the Departments of Social Services or Labour and National Services (Employment Service). In N.S.W., Liverpool is included in "Other". In S.A., Port Adelaide and in W.A., Fremantle and Midland Junction are included in "Metropolitan".
(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

7. SICKNESS - CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING JULY, 1947 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF JULY.

(i) Metropolitan and Other : Sickness benefits whose admission was notified during July, 1947, and those current at 26th July, 1947, are dissected into "Metropolitan" and "Other" districts (based on the usual place of residence of the beneficiary) in the following table :-

DISTRIBUTION OF SICKNESS BENEFICIARIES BETWEEN METROPOLITAN AND OTHER DISTRICTS (a) : STATES.

State	Claim admitted during July, 1947.				On Benefit at 26th July, 1947			
	Metropolitan		Other		Metropolitan		Other	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
New South Wales (b) ..	1,038	380	850	145	1,663	647	1,503	280
Victoria ..	774	296	416	83	1,284	562	689	164
Queensland ..	340	117	380	63	609	209	523	125
South Australia (c) ..	341	81	192	35	505	150	271	50
Western Australia ..	245	96	181	31	372	170	228	55
Tasmania ..	99	20	163	21	140	39	234	54
TOTAL:	2,837	990	2,182	378	4,573	1,777	3,448	728

(a) See footnote to table 6 (iii). (b) Includes A.C.T. (c) Includes N.T.

(ii) Industrial Groups : The distribution according to main industrial groups, of persons on sickness benefit at 26th July, 1947, is shown in the following table:-

INDUSTRIAL GROUPS : PERSONS ON SICKNESS BENEFIT AT 26th JULY, 1947 : AUSTRALIA

Industry in which last engaged	Males	Females	Persons
Agriculture, Pastoral and Dairying ..	687	22	709
Other Primary Production ..	175	1	176
Coal Mining ..	340	-	340
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	165	-	165
Factories and Industrial -			
Founding, engineering, metalworking, including shipbuilding	1,200	84	1,284
Vehicles, including aircraft ..	365	19	384
Textiles and articles of dress ..	301	480	781
Food, drink and tobacco ..	537	133	670
Furniture, woodwork, etc. ..	306	18	324
Other Factories, including heat, light and power ..	773	142	915
Building and Construction ..	1,000	4	1,004
Transport and Communication ..	772	53	825
Commerce and Finance -			
Wholesale and retail trade ..	678	410	1,088
Finance and property ..	35	35	70
Public Administration and Professional ..	257	466	723
Personal and Domestic Service ..	403	631	1,034
Other ..	27	7	34
TOTAL:	8,021	2,505	10,526

(iii) Nature of Sickness : The following table shows the principal causes of sickness, as stated on medical certificate of persons whose admission was notified during July, 1947, and of those on benefit at 26th July, 1947.

NATURE OF SICKNESS : CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC. DURING JULY, 1947.

AUSTRALIA.

Nature of Sickness	Claims admitted during July, 1947.			On Benefit at 26th July, 1947.		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	289	60	349	395	154	549
Cancer ..	27	4	31	73	12	85
Other Tumours ..	41	37	78	87	75	162
Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and Vitamin-Deficiency Diseases ..	300	99	399	588	246	834
Diseases of -						
Blood and Blood-forming Organs ..	18	18	36	44	46	90
Nervous System and Sense Organs ..	397	192	589	782	336	1,118
Circulatory System ..	380	55	435	928	146	1,074
Respiratory System ..	647	146	793	889	222	1,111
Digestive System ..	1,041	308	1,349	1,463	375	1,838
Genito-Urinary System ..	205	104	309	347	196	543
Pregnancy, Childbirth, etc. ..	-	84	84	-	205	205
Skin and Cellular Tissue ..	284	66	350	327	80	407
Bones and Organs of Movement ..	131	31	162	226	77	303
Other Diseases (including ill-defined conditions) ..	68	43	111	115	103	218
Injuries and Acute Poisoning -						
Fractures ..	565	53	618	1,113	117	1,230
Other Injuries, etc. ..	577	48	625	564	76	640
Operations (original disability not stated) ..	32	17	49	52	33	85
Other (including not stated) ..	17	3	20	28	6	34
<u>TOTAL:</u>	5,019	1,368	6,387	8,021	2,505	10,526

8. TOTAL APPLICATIONS FOR BENEFIT AND CLAIMS REJECTED.

The total number of applicants for benefit whose claims were notified during July, 1947, and those whose claims were notified as rejected during the same period are shown in the table below. No further dissection of rejected claims has been made but it is hoped to extract further information at a later date.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS FOR BENEFIT AND CLAIMS REJECTED - JULY, 1947 - STATES.

State	Unemployment		Sickness		Special		Total		Percentage Rejects to Total
	Total Claims	Rejects	Total Claims	Rejects	Total Claims	Rejects	Total Claims	Rejects	
N.S.W. (a) ..	989	334	2,729	316	62	14	3,780	664	17.6
Victoria ..	771	569	1,814	245	44	11	2,629	825	31.4
Queensland ..	1,803	531	1,076	176	57	19	2,936	726	24.7
S.A. (b) ..	75	34	801	152	18	8	894	194	21.7
W.A. ..	646	230	639	86	24	4	1,309	320	24.4
Tasmania ..	38	13	328	25	13	3	379	41	10.8
<u>TOTAL:</u>	4,322	1,711	7,387	1,000	218	59	11,927	2,770	23.2

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(ROLAND WILSON)

